

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A respiration hood assembly useful to draw air across a filter and convey same into a shrouded enclosure adjacent the face of a person, comprising:

a thin-walled headpiece defined by a bowl generally conformed to be worn on the head of said person and formed within a planar brim surface extending eccentrically from the periphery thereof, the larger portion of said brim surface being disposed to extend in cantilever above said face of said person and including an opening therein;

a thin-walled housing including a peripheral edge conformed for a nested releasably engaging receipt of the corresponding periphery of brim to form a cavity therebetween, said housing further including an aspiration vent communicating into said cavity;

filter means deployed in said housing adjacent said aspiration vent for filtering said ambient air passing into the interior thereof;

an electrically powered fan deployed within said cavity adjacent said opening in said brim for drawing ambient air across said filter means and through said cavity and for emitting said ambient air through said opening in said brim; and

a plastic membrane skirt releasably captured between said periphery of said brim and peripheral edge of said housing to depend therefrom onto the body of said person.

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2. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:
a battery mounted in said cavity and connected for selective electrical excitation of said electrically powered fan.
3. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising:
electrical connection means deployed across said battery and conformed for electrical connection to an alternative source of electrical power.
4. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:
said aspiration vent includes a shouldered periphery conformed to engage the periphery of said filter means and a removable cover provided with louvered apertures therein.
5. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 4, further comprising:
a battery mounted in said cavity and connected for selective electrical excitation of said electrically powered fan and electrical connection means deployed across said battery conformed for electrical connection to an alternative source of electrical power.
6. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein:
at least that portion of said skirt that is proximate to the face of said person is transparent.

7. (Currently amended) A respiration hood useful to draw ambient air across a filter and to convey same into a shrouded enclosure adjacent the face of a person, comprising:

a thin-walled headpiece including a bowl generally conformed to be worn on the head of said person form within a planar brim surface extending eccentrically from the periphery thereof, said brim surface being disposed to extend in cantilever above said face of said person and including an opening therein;

a thin-walled housing conformed for releasable nested engaging retention of the corresponding periphery of said brim to form a cavity therebetween, said housing further including an aspiration vent communicating into said cavity;

an air filter deployed in said housing adjacent said aspiration vent;

an electrically powered fan deployed within said cavity adjacent said opening in said brim for drawing ambient air across said filter, through said cavity and thereafter emitting same through said opening in said brim; and

a flexible skirt captured between said periphery of said brim and said housing to form said shrouded enclosure.

8. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein:

said aspiration vent includes a shouldered periphery conformed to engage the periphery of said filter and a removable cover provided with louvered apertures therein.

9. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising:
a battery mounted in said cavity and connected for selective electrical excitation of said
electrically powered fan and electrical connection means deployed across said
battery conformed for electrical connection to an alternative source of electrical
power.

10. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein:
at least that portion of said skirt that is proximate to the face of said person is transparent.

11. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 10, further comprising:
a plurality of transparent panels releasably adhered in stacked alignment on the exterior
of said skirt in opposition to the face of said person.

12. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein:
said electrically powered fan includes an electric motor provided with an electrically
unshielded commutator.

13. (Currently amended) A respiration hood, comprising:
a generally hollow domed housing provided with an aspiration aperture communicating
to the exterior thereof and a nested lower panel releasably engaged within the
peripheral edge of said domed housing to form a cavity therebetween, said lower
panel including an opening therein;
an air filter interchangeably deployed in said housing adjacent said aspiration ~~vent~~
aperture;

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(Claim 13 continued)

an electrically powered fan deployed within said cavity adjacent said opening in said panel for drawing ambient air across said filter, through said cavity and thereafter emitting same through said opening; and
a flexible skirt releasably captured between said periphery of said panel and the ~~peripheral edge of~~ ~~said housing to form said shrouded enclosure.~~

14. (Currently canceled)

15. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 14 13, wherein:
said aspiration vent aperture includes a shouldered periphery conformed to engage the periphery of said filter and a removable cover provided with louvered apertures therein.

16. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 15, further comprising:
a battery mounted in said cavity and connected for selective electrical excitation of said electrically powered fan and electrical connection means deployed across said battery conformed for electrical connection to an alternative source of electrical power.

17. (Currently canceled)

18. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to Claim 17 16, wherein:
said electrically powered fan includes an electric motor provided with an electrically unshielded commutator.